Application No. 09/486,981 Docket No.: 20241/0207055-US0

Amendment dated January 26, 2010 Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2009

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, and 32-34 are pending. Claims 1-4 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification. See, for example, pages 276 to 278 of the instant specification. No new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments and entry is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4 and 32-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter.

Applicants respectfully traverse. The Examiner asserts on page 3 of the Office Action:

Applicant claims molecular compounds which are prepared from the reaction of a phenol derivative, according to Formula (I), and an organic compound selected from the group consisting of, *inter alia* antibacterial agents, antifungal agents, perfumes, resins, etc. Given the broad recitation of possible organic reactants, it is unclear to the Examiner as to what is the structural makeup of the final molecular compound.

Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion, Applicants have amended claims 1 to 4 to provide limitations to the organic compounds of the claimed compounds. These amendments are solely for responding to this Office Action and are made without acquiescing to the Examiner's positions. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the canceled or amended subject matter in one or more continuation or divisional applications. These amendments more than satisfy the standards set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the instant rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the application is respectfully solicited.

If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with the undersigned would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at telephone number shown below.

The Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in any fees paid on the filing, or during prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: January 26, 2010 Respectfully submitted,

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